

Message Text

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ACTION SS-15

INFO OCT-01 EA-07 ISO-00 PM-04 NSC-05 SP-02 CIAE-00 INR-07

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FM AMEMBASSY JAKARTA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 1384

C O N F I D E N T I A L JAKARTA 14429

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: EGEN, USIDJC, US, ID

SUBJECT: U.S.-INDONESIAN JOINT COMMISSION

REFS: A. STATE 272312; B. JAKARTA 14372

1. AFTER APPEARING ENTHUSIASTICALLY TO ENDORSE IDEA OF JOINT COMMISSION, INDONESIANS MAY NOW BE HAVING SECOND THOUGHTS.

2. WHEN I PRESENTED OUTLINE OF PROPOSAL AND AIDE MEMOIRE TO MINISTER OF DEFENSE PANGGABEAN NOVEMBER 24, HE COMMENTED THAT, WHILE IDEA HAD MERIT, HE WAS SURE NEITHER U.S. NOR INDONESIA WISHED TO TAKE ANY STEPS WHICH WOULD MAKE OUR CONSULTATIONS MORE COMPLICATED. WE CURRENTLY HAD GOOD PATTERN OR COOPERATION AND CONSULTATIONS AND INDONESIA WOULD HAVE TO CONSIDER JOINT COMMISSION IDEA FROM STANDPOINT OF WHAT IT WOULD ADD TO PRESENT ARRANGEMENTS. PARTICULARLY IN DEFENSE AREA, INDONESIA WOULD WANT TO ASSURE THAT COMMISSION DID NOT GIVE WRONG IMPRESSION TO OTHER COUNTRIES, BY IMPLYING U.S.-INDONESIAN MILITARY PACT.

3. I POINTED OUT TO GENERAL PANGGABEAN THAT WE WERE RESPONDING TO EXPRESSIONS OF INTEREST RAISED AT CAMP DAVID AND THAT WE CERTAINLY DID NOT WISH TO TAKE ANY
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STEPS WHICH WOULD CREATE PROBLEMS FOR OUR CURRENT RELA-

TIONSHIP. WE HAD JOINT COMMISSIONS WITH A NUMBER OF OTHER COUNTRIES AND SUCH COMMISSIONS ARE SHAPED TO FIT SPECIAL CIRCUMSTANCES OF EACH RELATIONSHIP. WE LOOKED UPON COMMISSION AS USEFUL EXTENSION AND FORMALIZING OF PRESENT RELATIONSHIP. WE HAD PROPOSED ARRANGEMENTS THAT WERE SUFFICIENTLY SIMPLE AND FLEXIBLE TO MEET NEEDS AS THEY AROSE.

4. COMMENTING THAT TIME WAS SHORT, GENERAL PANGGABEAN PROMISED THAT HE WOULD CONSULT WITH OTHER MEMBERS OF GOVERNMENT IN HOPES OF HAVING RESPONSE BEFORE PRESIDENT'S VISIT.

5. COMMENT: IT WOULD CERTAINLY BE PREMATURE TO SUGGEST THAT INDONESIAN WOULD REJECT IDEA OF COMMISSION AFTER THEIR ENTHUSIASTIC INTEREST UP TO THIS POINT. PANGGABEAN'S QUESTIONS AND WIDJOJO'S EARLIER(REF. B), HOWEVER, SUGGEST THAT CONSIDERATIONS OF THIRD WORLD, ASEAN AND INDO-CHINESE ATTITUDES MAY HAVE ARISEN TO COMPOUND ISSUE. IT WOULD BE HELPFUL IN PREPARING FOR FURTHER DISCUSSIONS TO HAVE FULL LIST OF OTHER COUNTRIES WITH WHICH WE HAVE CONSULTATIVE ARRANGEMENTS.
NEWSOM

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